Programme for financial assistance in the field of Social Defence to Non-Organisations.

There is no proposal to bring widow-homes under the purview of the National Trust as the National Trust is governed by the statutory provisions of the National Trust for Welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act 1999 under which it is set up.

Job reservations in private sector

411. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are committed to provide job reservation for SCs/STs/OBCs in private corporate sector as a part of its Common Minimum Programme;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the constitutional validity of such enactments in this regard;

(c) whether Government have also initiated any dialogue with the corporate sector for a consensual approach to the issue; and

(d) if so, the response of the corporate sector thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (d) According to the National Common Minimum Programme, the Government has to initiate a national dialogue with all political parties, industry and other organizations to see how best the private sector can fulfil the aspirations of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe youth. Accordingly, 218 organisations of the industry and trade in the corporate world have been addressed to elicit their views/comments on affirmative action including reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Private Sector. On receiving their response, meetings will be held with the industry and thereafter, consultations will be held with the political parties and other organizations on this issue. However, no enactment is proposed.

Grants to voluntary organisations

†412. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that voluntary organizations are provided with grants under the Artificial Limbs Equipment Supply Scheme for providing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

artificial limbs and equipments to the disabled persons at free of cost and if so the amount of grant during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals alongwith the amount sought therein received by Government, so far from Chhattisgarh and the proposals sanctioned so far;

(c) by when the remaining proposals are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the reasons of delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes Sir, the grant released to voluntary organizations during the last three years under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of fittings Aids/Appliances is as follows:

Year	Amount (in crore)
2001-02	43.52
2002-03	57.00
2003-04	55.00

(b) No new proposal has been received from voluntary organizations of Chhattisgarh during the current year. Amount released to Chhattisgarh (through NGOs and DRC, Bilaspur) since it became a separate state are as follows:

Year	Amount (in Lakhs)
2002-03	19.17
2003-04	33.82

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Rahabilitation of disabled persons

†413. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allotted to various States for the implementation of the National Programme of the Rehabilitation of Physically Disabled Persons (N.P.R.P.D.) during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the step taken for rehabilitation of disabled persons during the above Period?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.